Limetree Bay Terminals (EPA Region 2)

Lead Attorney: Flaire Mills, (212) 637-3198

Overview of the Case/Action EPA and the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) are negotiating with Limetree Bay Terminals LLC (LBT) regarding modifications to a 2011 consent decree (CD) dealing with the HOVENSA refinery and oil terminal on St. Croix. LBT purchased much of the facility in 2015 after HOVENSA shut down the refinery and filed for bankruptcy. LBT intends to restart some of the refinery units. Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a) Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a) We have also learned that the White House Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a) would like to issue a statement in September, expressing support for the refinery restart. Action Needed/Next Steps and Date The enforcement team is working on developing a response to LBT's CD modification requests. The enforcement team is scheduled to discuss LBT's proposals with the USVI on August 14, and engage with LBT shortly thereafter. Background and Summary of Case, Health and Environmental Impacts This case involves a petroleum refinery in St. Croix, USVI, that has been subject to a federal Clean Air Act consent decree (CD) since June 7. 2011. In February 2012, then-owner HOVENSA idled all refinery Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a) and processing operations. Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a) Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a) In 2015, Limetree Bay Terminals LLC (LBT) acquired the refinery assets and the neighboring marine terminal through HOVENSA's bankruptcy proceedings. LBT concurrently entered into an operating agreement with the USVI to explore opportunities for refinery restart. Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a) Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a) The permit-related questions were answered in an April 5, 2018 letter to LBT from Bill Wehrum of OAR. Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a)

State Position, and other Interested Parties/Stakeholders

The Virgin Islands is a party to the Consent Decree and has been involved in the CD modification negotiations. An August 14, 2018 call has been scheduled with DPNR to discuss possible Government responses to LBT's CD modification requests.

Enforcement/Investigatory / Ex. 7(a)

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Other Issues for Consideration (precedential significance, etc.)

- The Virgin Islands Legislature has recently approved restart of the portions of the Refinery for which it received VIDPNR Authorization to Construct and Permits. Numerous senators at the VI legislative hearings, held prior to the approval, expressed concerns about any weakening of environmental protections that might result from the restart.
- The enforcement team has learned that the White House intends to issue a press release (possibly as early as September) on the partial refinery restart. In anticipation of the political and public attention resulting from such a statement, the enforcement team is seeking to expeditiously engage with LBT.